



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,005	07/08/2003	Chip Maxson	0008	1031
43699	7590	07/25/2007		
GO DADDY GROUP, INC. 14455 NORTH HAYDEN ROAD SUITE 219 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260			EXAMINER SALL, EL HADJI MALICK	
			ART UNIT 2157	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/25/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/616,005

Applicant(s)

MAXSON ET AL.

Examiner

El Hadji M. Sall

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on May 9, 2007. Claims 1, 6, 8-9 and 14-18 are amended. Claim 20 is added. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-20 represent reseller program for registering domain names through resellers' web sites.

2. ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant discloses "a reseller program for allowing a plurality of Customers to register one or more domain names via a Registrar...". For the claimed invention to be statutory, it has to be embedded in computer readable medium.

The new amendment did not overcome the previous rejection. Applicant failed to show that the reseller program is "embodied in machine readable medium".

For purpose of prior art rejection, Examiner will construe claim 1-10 as "a reseller program embodied in a machine readable medium for allowing a plurality of Customers to register one or more domain names via a Registrar".

3. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1-17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Bayles U.S. 7,039,697.

Bayles teaches the invention as claimed including registry-integrated Internet domain name acquisition system (see abstract).

As to claims 1, 6, 10 and 14, Bayles teaches a reseller program embodied in a machine readable medium and a process for allowing a plurality of Customers to register one or more domain names via a Registrar web site, comprising:

A) means for accepting a plurality of Resellers into a reseller program, wherein each Reseller has at least one reseller web site (column 6, lines 26-28);

B) means for creating a registrar web site for registering domain names with an appropriate Registry web site (figure 2);

C) means for allowing a plurality of reseller web sites to register one or more domain names for one or more customers via the registrar web site (column 6, lines 26-28);

D) means for collecting a fee from each Reseller web site that registers a domain name for a Customer via the registrar web site (column 6, lines 32-33; column 5, lines 29-46).

As to claim 2, Bayles teaches the reseller program and the process of claim 1, wherein the reseller web site has the ability to communicate with the registrar web site

or the reseller web site includes Internet links to the registrar web site (figure 2)

As to claims 3, 8, 12, 13, 16 and 17, Bayles teaches the reseller program and the process of claims 1, 6, 10 and 14, wherein the reseller web sites communicate with the registrar web site via an application program interface protocol (column 6, lines 57-67; figure 1).

As to claim 4, Bayles teaches the reseller program of claim 1, wherein the actions by one of the plurality of Resellers include creating a link to the registrar web site from another web site (figure 1; column 5, lines 37-46).

As to claims 5, 7, 11 and 15, Bayles teaches the reseller program and the process of claims 1, 6, 10 and 14, further including means to register domain names via a proxy service, wherein proxy contact information is made publicly available while the Customer receives legal rights in the domain name (column 5, lines 32-36).

As to claim 20, Bayles teaches the process of claim 14, further including the steps of:

the customer linking from the reseller web site to the registrar web site; and after registering the domain name, linking from the registrar web site back to the reseller web site (figure 2).

5. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayles U.S. 7,039,697 in view of Vaidyanathan et al. U.S. 20020138291 (referred to hereafter as Vaid).

Bayles teaches the invention as claimed including registry-integrated Internet domain name acquisition system (see abstract).

As to claim 18, Bayles teaches the reseller program of claim 14.

Bayles fails to teach explicitly the administration web site offers the option to the

resellers to receive electronic payments from the registrar based on activities of their associated customers.

However, Vaid teaches the administration web site offers the option to the resellers to receive electronic payments from the registrar based on activities of their associated customers (page 2, [0019]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bayles in view of Vaid to provide the administration web site offering the option to the resellers to receive electronic payments from the registrar based on activities of their associated customers. One would be motivated to do so to allow paperless transaction.

As to claim 19, Bayles teaches the reseller program of claim 14.

Bayles fails to teach explicitly wherein the administration web site offers the option to the Reseller to display a report showing commission payments during selected time periods.

However, Vaid teaches the administration web site offers the option to the Reseller to display a report showing commission payments during selected time periods (page 1, [0009]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Bayles in view of Vaid to provide the administration web site offers the option to the Reseller to display a report showing commission payments during selected time periods. One would be motivated to do so to allow efficient tracking

of a reseller commission.

7. Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 05/09/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

(A) Applicants argue that Bayles does not teach limitation C) of claims 1 and 10.

In regards to the point (A), Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Column 5, lines 29-46, Bayles discloses any and all domain name retailers, such as existing registrars, can participate much more simply in providing monitor and acquire domain name services. The retailer can still offer such services to its customers under the new model, generally through its Web site (i.e. the same as "allowing a web site or a plurality of web sites to register one or more domain names for one or more customers via the registrar web site")...

(B) Applicant argues that that there is not a reasonable expectation of success in the combination of Bayles and Vaidyanathan.

In regards to the point (A), Examiner respectfully disagrees.

In response to "not a reasonable expectation of success in the combination of Bayles and Vaid", Examiner is pointing out to Appellants that Both Bayles and Vaid

inventions are in the same field of endeavor, and both of them are trying to solve the same invention. One of ordinary skill in the art would make adjustment to Bayles and Vaid reference to come up with this teaching.

8. Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

Art Unit: 2157

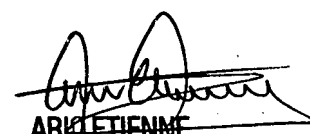
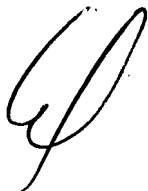
TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to El Hadji M Sall whose telephone number is 571-272-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

El Hadji Sall
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2157



ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100